

LYNNWOOD LIBRARY – LIBRARIAN’S REPORT – October 2014

Lynnwood Library – Statistical Summary	OCT-14		OCT-13		% Change
Items Checked Out/Renewed	61,867		64,723		-4.41%
Items Checked Out/Renewed YTD	640,304		674,728		-5.10%
Door Count	39,781		36,766		8.20%
Door Count YTD	379,555		362,732		4.64%
Program Attendance	1,959		1,745		12.26%
Program Attendance YTD	17,989		17,628		2.04%

WHAT’S NEW

Technical Assistants Mary Hofbeck and Luis Miranda were given an opportunity to learn more about the Microsoft IT Academy at a special workshop on October 16. The Academy provides free online tutorials that students can complete in an effort to gain Microsoft certification, an important step in IT career advancement. Sno-Isle is one of many public libraries throughout the state of Washington participating in this program. Both Mary and Luis learned more about the steps required in actually preparing for and taking the certification exams. As a result they will be in a better position to assist students who look to the library for that access.

Luis and Mary continue to offer an ever-expanding range of classes on tech-related subjects: Pinterest, LinkedIn, Photoshop, drawing with the Bamboo tablet, using the Apple OS, and a variety of classes on Microsoft Office, and other forms of social media and e-commerce. Their drop-in Tech Monday afternoons continue to be popular as customers bring in their equipment to get trouble-shooting advice and tips.

Librarian Diane Brown offered several “book a librarian” tutorials throughout the month. One of them covered the library’s business databases for a couple who are starting a home care business. She also provided a class on “How to Write a Business Plan” with Small Business Reference Center.

Librarian Matt Laxton reports that he hosted jobs-related classes provided by WorkSource as well as a class on “Scoping Out Your (Business) Competition” using AtoZ Databases.

Librarian Steve Sandbakken offered a program on assessing investment information using Morningstar. He also hosted Jennifer Pharr Davis, National Geographic’s 2012 Adventurer of the Year winner, who set a speed record for completing the Appalachian Trail. Jennifer thrilled the audience with her accounts of adventures and challenges met on the trail, which she has completed twice.

The PSA and Page Staff were focused on implementing the Bibliotheca DVD vending system for much of September and October. The company had sent its technicians from the United Kingdom to work on installation and adjustments to software. Unfortunately, they were unable to make the system work reliably. Despite everyone’s best efforts, the system never functioned as promised, and after 3 weeks of hit and miss transactions, Sno-Isle exercised its options to suspend the pilot project under a full satisfaction guarantee. While Sno-Isle did not pay for the equipment or shipping/installation, staff spent considerable time on the project. Staff are now assessing other options for access and loss prevention.

OUTREACH

In an effort to reach Generations Y and Z (people currently in their 20s and 30s), Librarian Jackie Parker participated in a brainstorming session with other key Sno-Isle staff and a marketing firm called OrangeBoy, Inc. The group’s efforts will help the library in reaching out to an age group that often veers away from the library after completing their formal education.

FACILITIES

Sno-Isle will be replacing the microfilm reader-printer with the latest in digital conversion. The equipment is still vital in genealogical and historical research, as much of the information on microfilm has yet to be transferred to digital format.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Delury,
Managing Librarian